

Cause and Effect

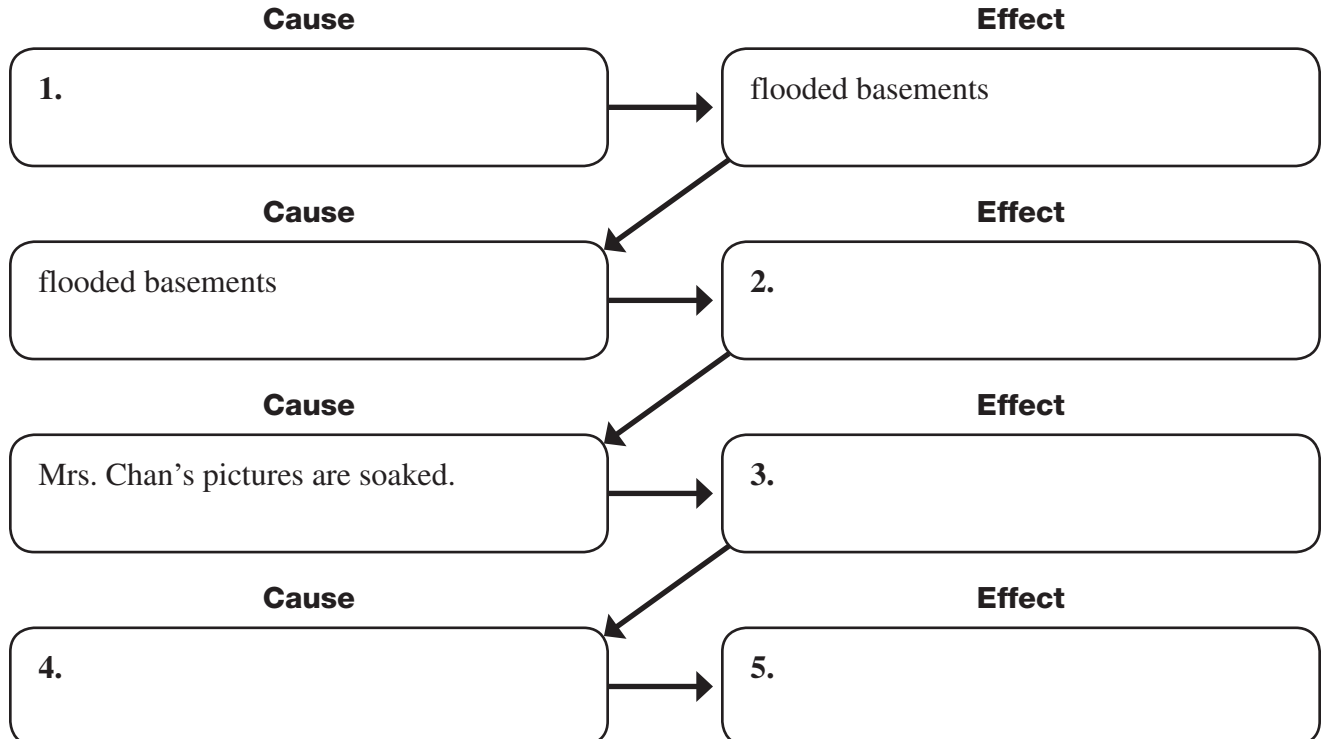
- A **cause** is what makes something happen. An **effect** is what happens as a result of the cause.
- If there are no clue words, ask yourself, "What made this event happen? What happened as a result of this event?"
- An effect may become the cause of another effect.

Directions Read the following passage and complete the diagram below.

By the third day of non-stop rain, no one on our street could keep the water out of their homes. The homes that had basements were hit hardest. Basements were flooded in spite of efforts to pump the water out. Toys, washing machines, and furniture in basements were soaked through completely.

Our neighbor, Mrs. Chan, was so

sad because all her photographs of her grandchildren had been in her basement. Her granddaughter May was my best friend, and I had May's school picture in my wallet. I wrapped it in a plastic bag, put on my raincoat, and ran to Mrs. Chan's house. Just as I handed Mrs. Chan May's picture, a ray of sun peeked out from behind a cloud.



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Home Activity Your child identified causes and effects in a short passage. While working around the house, have your child explain to you the effects of one of the chores. Then ask your child to figure out if the effect becomes the cause of another effect.

The Winter of Blue Snow

It was the coldest winter Paul Bunyan had ever seen. It was so cold that the fish moved south, the trees begged to be cut down, and even the snow turned blue. The nights were so frosty that when Sourdough Sam called Paul Bunyan and the other lumberjacks to dinner, his words froze solid and hung in the air, so nobody heard him and the lumberjacks went hungry until morning.

To get his mind off his starving belly, Paul Bunyan went for a walk. He was just about to eat a valley-sized handful of blue snow when he heard a strange sound—like the snort of a bear crossed with the bleat of a lamb. Peering into his hands, Paul Bunyan saw the sorriest sight: a tiny baby ox, stained blue by the snow.

Well, Paul Bunyan took pity on the poor little ox and took him to Sourdough Sam for a few gallons of milk. While old Sourdough heated the milk over the fifty-burner stove, Paul Bunyan ate the dinner intended for fifty lumberjacks—he left not one spiral ham or bushel of mashed potatoes or gallon of gravy on the massive table.

Soon it was clear that the little blue ox, which Paul Bunyan named Babe, had it in mind to take after its new owner. That first night, Babe drank the milk of a hundred

cows, so the next morning Sourdough Sam had to make oatmeal for breakfast with melted blue snow. Babe soon grew so big that Paul Bunyan had to build an extra large barn to keep him in. When Babe was a week old, he started helping Paul Bunyan by hauling a hundred logs at a time by the strength of his massive neck.

The only trouble between Babe and Paul Bunyan was that Babe loved the winter and hated summer, so Paul Bunyan had to be mighty creative to keep Babe hauling logs in the summer heat. He even painted the roads white to make Babe think that they were covered in snow. Finally, Paul Bunyan hit on a grand idea: he introduced Babe to Bessie, the yellow cow. Bessie was almost as big as Babe and as beautiful as a summer day. She had a lovely yellow hide and warm brown eyes that nearly melted the blue right off Babe.

Now, being a summer cow and Sourdough Sam's best provider of milk and cream during the winter, Bessie could only work during the summer months. So during the winter, Babe hauled logs alone, thinking all the time about his Bessie, and during the summer, Babe and Bessie hauled logs together, which made Babe grow to love the summertime almost as much as Bessie did.

1. Find three improbable events in paragraph 1. Underline them.
2. Find two realistic details in paragraph 2. Underline them.
3. Find three exaggerated details in paragraph 5 that create humor. Underline them.

Name _____

Vocabulary

Directions Choose the word from the box that best matches each definition. Write the word on the line.

- _____ 1. blood vessels that carry blood to the heart from all parts of the body
- _____ 2. song for singing to a child
- _____ 3. stealing
- _____ 4. a thick, black, sticky substance made from tar or turpentine
- _____ 5. fitted together; built

Check the Words You Know

____branded
 ____constructed
 ____daintily
 ____devastation
 ____lullaby
 ____pitch
 ____resourceful
 ____thieving
 ____veins

Directions Choose the word from the box that best completes the sentences below. Write the word on the line shown to the left.

- _____ 6. The rancher _____ his cattle with the symbol from his ranch so nobody else could claim them.
- _____ 7. The cracks in the roof were sealed with _____.
- _____ 8. Grandma and Grandpa danced elegantly, or _____, in time with the music's gentle beat.
- _____ 9. When no one else could think of how to solve the school's litter problem, Marisa impressed the principal with her _____ idea.
- _____ 10. The tornado caused a lot of _____, or destruction, when it whipped through town and ripped several homes from their foundations.

Write a Friendly Letter

On a separate sheet of paper, write a friendly letter to someone living out of town about an event that happened where you live. Use as many vocabulary words as you can.



Home Activity Your child identified and used vocabulary words from *Thunder Rose*. Work with your child to learn the words and their definitions. Have your child create colorful flash cards to do so.



Name _____

Subjects and Predicates

Every sentence has a subject and a predicate. The words that tell whom or what the sentence is about are the **complete subject**.

Many families moved west in the 1840s.

The words that tell what the subject is or does are the **complete predicate**.

The trip could take up to six months.

A **nominative** is a noun or pronoun that means the same as the subject. It explains or identifies something about the subject.

Joe was an experienced cowboy. The nominative is *cowboy*.

A **fragment** is a group of words that lacks a subject or a predicate.

Had to carry everything with them. This fragment lacks a subject.

A **run-on** is two or more complete sentences run together.

The settlers needed food they needed tools.

Directions Underline each complete subject once. Underline each complete predicate twice.

1. A tornado's shape is like a funnel.
2. The deadly funnel measures up to a mile wide.
3. They are unpredictable in their movements.
4. Settlers feared the awful twister.

Directions Write *F* after a fragment. Write *R* after a run-on. Then correct the sentence errors. Write a simple sentence or a compound sentence on the lines.

5. The wind inside a tornado _____

6. A tornado can be called a twister it is also sometimes called a cyclone. _____



Home Activity Your child learned about subjects and predicates. Talk about a storm you and your child have experienced. Have your child write several sentences about the storm and identify the complete subjects and predicates in each sentence.

Long Vowel VCV

Spelling Words

fever	broken	climate	hotel	basic
vocal	native	silent	labor	spider
label	icon	agent	motive	vital
acorn	item	aroma	ego	solo

Words in Context Complete each sentence with a list word.

- From a small _____, a large oak tree grows. 1. _____
- When you are sick, you may have a _____. 2. _____
- Your _____ is what you think of yourself. 3. _____
- Flying _____ means doing something alone. 4. _____
- A desert _____ may produce too little rain to support crops. 5. _____
- The two people were loud and _____ as they cheered. 6. _____
- The travel _____ helped plan a vacation. 7. _____
- We want to stay in the _____ that has a pool. 8. _____
- Have you ever watched a _____ spin its web? 9. _____
- The clothing _____ itches the back of my neck. 10. _____

Antonyms Write the list word that has the opposite or nearly the opposite meaning.

- fixed 11. _____
- advanced 12. _____
- alien 13. _____
- noisy 14. _____
- unimportant 15. _____

Synonyms Write the list word that has the same or nearly the same meaning.

- work 16. _____
- reason 17. _____
- object 18. _____
- scent 19. _____
- image 20. _____



Home Activity Your child wrote words with the long vowel VCV pattern. Have your child tell you one synonym or one antonym for a list word.

Scoring Rubric: Tall Tale

	4	3	2	1
Focus/Ideas	Exaggerated character and events	Somewhat exaggerated character and events	Character and events hardly exaggerated	Character and events not exaggerated
Organization/Sequence	Clear order of events	Mostly clear order of events	Confused order of events	No order of events
Voice	Engaging and original voice	Generally engaging voice	No clear original voice	Voice is not engaging or original
Word Choice	Writer uses strong sensory details	Writer uses good sensory details	Writer uses weak sensory details	Writer does not include sensory details
Sentences	Clear, complete sentences	Most sentences clear and complete	Some sentences unclear and incomplete	Many sentences incomplete
Conventions	Subjects and predicates used correctly	Most subjects and predicates used correctly	Some mistakes with subjects and predicates	Many errors with subjects and predicates

Vocabulary • Context Clues

- **Homonyms** are words that are spelled the same but have different meanings.
- Look for **context clues**—words and sentences around a word—to figure out which meaning is being used in the sentence.

Directions Read the following passage about a hurricane. Then answer the questions below. Look for homonyms as you read.

As Pedro scaled the ladder to the roof, he felt the blood in his veins pumping through his body. He was the first person to get a look at the destruction the hurricane had created. He looked at the roof and reminded himself to bring up a bucket of pitch next time to repair the new cracks. Looking out over the countryside, he saw that many buildings would need to be constructed again. He

started gathering broken branches to pitch, or throw, down to the ground below. Then he paused and took a deep breath, thinking about what this disaster had done to his community. He knew that none of his neighbors would have to pitch tents and live in their yards while repairs were made to their homes. The people of his town would help each other find shelter, and everyone would be fine.

1. *Vein* can mean “a blood vessel” or “a crack in a rock filled with a mineral deposit.” How is it used in the passage? How can you tell?
2. What does *pitch* mean in the third sentence of this passage? What clues help you understand the meaning used in this sentence?
3. What does *pitch* mean in the fifth sentence of this passage? What clues help you understand the meaning used in this sentence?
4. To *scale* something can mean “to climb up something” or “to measure something.” How is it used in this passage? How can you tell?
5. What does *pitch* mean in the second-to-last sentence of this passage? What clues help you understand the meaning used in this sentence?



Home Activity Your child read a short passage and used context clues to understand homonyms, words that are spelled the same but have different meanings. With your child, make a list of homonyms. Challenge your child to make up a sentence using each meaning.

Almanac

An **almanac** is a yearly book that contains calendars, weather information, and dates of holidays. Almanacs also contain charts and tables of current information in subject areas such as populations of cities and nations, and lists of recent prize winners in science, literature, and sports.

Directions Read this almanac entry about the United States Census. Use the information to answer the questions on the next page.

United States Census

Every ten years, the federal government conducts a census, or count, of the number of people who live in the United States. According to the federal Constitution, a census must be completed every ten years to determine the number of representatives each state may send to the U.S. House of Representatives.

The census shows how the populations of cities, regions, and states compare. This data helps government officials decide how and where to spend federal money. Traditionally, a census not only counts the number of citizens, but it also gathers other information, such as:

- the ethnic background of citizens
- the number of adults and children
- the number of employed people and unemployed people
- the income level of citizens and their type of housing

For many decades, the three largest cities have remained New York City, Los Angeles, and Chicago. However, other cities are growing more quickly than any of these three. Many sociologists, economists, and government officials find the growth rates of cities the most interesting information in the census. In recent years, the trend has been for great numbers of people to move from the North to the South—especially to states in the Southwest.

The federal government collects data every year, not just every decade. For instance, the chart below shows data from the 2000 census in one column, but it also includes data collected by the government in 2002. This chart shows the ten fastest growing cities of 100,000 people or more in the United States.

CITY	2000 Population	2002 Population	Numerical Change	Percentage Change
Gilbert, AZ	109,920	135,005	25,085	22.8
North Las Vegas, NV	115,488	135,902	20,414	17.7
Henderson, NV	175,750	206,153	30,403	17.3
Chandler, AZ	176,652	202,016	25,364	14.4
Peoria, AZ	108,685	123,239	14,554	13.4
Irvine, CA	143,072	162,122	19,050	13.3
Rancho Cucamonga, CA	127,743	143,711	15,968	12.5
Chula Vista, CA	173,566	193,919	20,353	11.7
Fontana, CA	128,938	143,607	14,669	11.4
Joliet, IL	106,334	118,423	12,089	11.4

Name _____

1. According to the U.S. Constitution, what is the maximum number of years that can pass between federal censuses?

2. What is the purpose of conducting a federal census, according to the U.S. Constitution?

3. In addition to population, what are two examples of other data a census provides?

4. What types of people consult the federal census?

5. What are the three largest cities in the United States?

6. Which state has the most listings among the fastest-growing cities on the 2002 census?

7. Would an almanac be a good place to find information on why nine of ten fastest-growing U.S. cities are located in the Southwest or West? Why or why not?

8. Which city had the highest numerical increase in population between 2000 and 2002?

9. Which city had the highest population in 2002? How much higher is its population than that of the city listed below it?

10. Between 2000 and 2002, Los Angeles (population 3,503,532) saw a numerical increase in population of 104,239. Why do you think Los Angeles isn't listed on this chart?



Home Activity Your child learned about the contents of almanacs and analyzed data from an almanac. Together, look up information about your town or area of the country in an almanac. Read about population, weather forecast, historical sites, and so on. Discuss how the information in the almanac helps you better understand your own geographical area.

Long Vowel VCV

Proofread a Postcard Yolanda wrote a postcard to her friend. Circle six spelling errors and one capitalization error. Write the corrections on the lines.

dear Margaret,

I'm having a great time at the hotle. There are lemon trees everywhere and the eroma from the blossoms is awesome. Today, I'm going to by some gifts. There are many nateve crafts to choose from. It's very calm and silant here. The only noise comes from the wind and the ocean. Thank your travel agant for suggesting this place. It's now a family favorite!

Your friend,
Yolanda

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | |

Proofread Words Circle the correct spelling of the word.

- | | | |
|------------|--------|--------|
| 8. vocle | vocal | vocel |
| 9. label | laebel | labal |
| 10. brokin | brokan | broken |
| 11. basec | basic | basuc |
| 12. ikon | icon | ican |
| 13. motive | motife | motove |
| 14. akorn | acern | acorn |
| 15. fever | fevar | feaver |
| 16. eego | ego | egho |

Spelling Words

fever
broken
climate
hotel
basic
vocal
native
silent
labor
spider

label
icon
agent
motive
vital
acorn
item
aroma
ego
solo

Frequently Misspelled Words

favorite
buy



Home Activity Your child identified misspelled list words in a paragraph. Ask your child to name one list word with the long a sound and one with the long o sound.



Subjects and Predicates

Directions Read the passage. Then read each question. Circle the letter of the correct answer.

Cowboys of Texas

(1) Cowboys of Texas herded cattle to Kansas on the Abilene Trail. (2) The great herds moved along slowly. (3) These large animals must graze for hours each day. (4) They needed a vast supply of water. (5) Lean, tanned cowboys (6) They crossed dangerous rivers and slept under the light of the moon. (7) A cowboy's horse was his friend and co-worker.

1 What is the complete subject of sentence 1?

- A** Cowboys
- B** Cowboys of Texas
- C** Kansas
- D** the Abilene Trail

2 What is the complete predicate of sentence 2?

- A** moved
- B** moved along
- C** moved along slowly
- D** The great herds

3 What is the complete subject of sentence 3?

- A** These large animals
- B** large animals
- C** hours each day
- D** animals must graze

4 How can you best describe sentence 5?

- A** Has a subject and predicate
- B** Run-on sentence
- C** Has a complete subject
- D** Sentence fragment

5 In sentence 6, what is the complete subject?

- A** They
- B** They crossed
- C** They crossed dangerous rivers
- D** rivers



Home Activity Your child prepared for taking tests on subjects, predicates, fragments, and run-ons. Circle a paragraph in the newspaper. Have your child identify the subject and predicate of each sentence in the paragraph.